



PATENT

2826  
#5/ELECTION  
- A.Mot.R  
1-29-02  
mwen

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Zheng et al. Examiner: Andujar, L.  
Serial No.: 09/775,370 Group Art Unit: 2826  
Filed: February 1, 2001 Docket No.: VLSI.225DIV1  
Title: OPTIMIZED METAL ETCH PROCESS TO ENABLE THE USE OF  
ALUMINUM PLUGS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this communication is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 20, 2001.

By:

Kelly S. Waltgney

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JAN 28 2002  
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## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action dated November 30, 2001 in which a restriction requirement was made, the claims of Group I (27-37) are hereby elected, without traverse. Please cancel claims 38-46.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments, a telephone call to the number indicated below is invited.

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By:

Name: Robert J. Crawford

Reg. No.: 32,122